



## Information Governance Team

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07 January 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI383878357**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Children's Care Homes.

You have requested the following information:

#### **1. Number of private residential children care providers?**

We are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act that we do not hold this information. Coventry City Council only holds information for homes owned/operated by the local authority. To advise and assist, please contact OFSTED and the Quality Care Commission who would hold this information.

#### **2. Number of children placed with private residential care providers?**

We hold the information which you have asked for however to solely identify children with EBD and LD issues, we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £450 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or more, in determining whether the information is held, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

As this information is not specifically captured, to identify this data would involve a manual trawl of records which will exceed 18 hours work. However, in order to fulfil our obligations under Section 16 of the FOI Act to advise and assist you, we have provided answers below which include all children, where possible.

As at 31 December 2021, Coventry City Council placed 68 children in private (excluding voluntary)

residential provision, which we have defined as Secure Children's Homes (K1), Children's Homes (K2) and Residential Care Homes (R1).

**a. Of these, how many are placed in the same borough?**

10 children were placed within Coventry.

**b. Of these, how many were placed in a different borough?**

58 children were placed outside.

**c. Of these, how many are placed from a different borough?**

Please refer to the response provided above. To obtain information on children placed by other local authorities in private care homes within Coventry would require manual work exceeding the cost of compliance (Section 12 of FOI).

**d. Age ranges of the children placed?**

The age range of the children placed is from 11 to 17 years old.

**e. How many were spot purchases and how many were framework?**

As at 6 January 2022, 33 children were placed with spot providers and 36 with framework. Please note we are unable to identify this data retrospectively without a manual trawl which would exceed 18 hours.

**3. How many children's care homes do you operate?**

Five.

**4. If applicable, how many children are placed in care homes that you operate?**

Up to four children can be placed within each of our homes, therefore we can care for up to 20 children. We also advise that one of our homes offers short breaks for up to four children with a disability, during each stay.

**5. If applicable, what is the average weekly cost of placing a child in a care home you operate?**

Based on 87.5% occupancy, this equates to £4,258 per week

**6. Are there any plans for council funded children care homes?**

Yes.

**7. What is the minimum, average and maximum weekly cost of placing a child in a private care home?**

Average: £4,637

Maximum: £12,350

Minimum: £2,670

**8. What is the average distance young people are placed from their homes?**

For the 68 children placed in private residential provision in Question 2, the average distance they were placed from the centre of Coventry is 48.7 miles.

**9. What is the average size of the care homes you place children in (i.e. how many children can they accommodate)?**

Please refer to the response provided for Question 1. The Council does not hold this information for the homes that we do not operate.

## **10. What is your biggest need right now regarding EBD or LD children care homes?**

Currently we have no provision to meet the needs of looked after children with complex needs/ learning disabilities that we can use within the city. Our immediate need is therefore for an LD home. However, the demand for placements is also high for children who may be described as having emotional and behavioural difficulties

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For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**